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Notes and Observations

PROFUSION OF BUTTERFLIES IN EARLY MAY 1976. — The phenomenally warm spell which struck the south of England with three successive days of shade temperatures at over 80°F. during the second week in May, had a remarkable effect on the butterfly population. On May 1st, I visited a favoured haunt on the Surrey-Sussex border, but in spite of fairly mild conditions hardly an insect was apparent. However, when I revisited this locality on May 9th in company with Dr. John Holmes it was a very different picture in the short heat-wave. Butterflies seemed everywhere and in fair profusion. By the end of our visit we had recorded no less than a dozen species, ten of which were of this year's origin. *Leptidea sinapis* L. was flying in most of the rides, but only the males together with many *Anthocharis cardamines* L. and *Pararge egeria* L. *Pieris rapae* L., *P. rapae* L. and *P. brassicae* were also much in evidence. *Clossiana euphrosyne* L. was already well under way, and we also noted *Heodes phlaeas* L., *Celastrina argiolus* L. and *Pyrgus malvae* L. Other collectors had also seen *Callophrys rubi* L. Of the hibernators both sexes of *Gonepteryx rhamni* L. were everywhere and we saw a single *Inachis io* L., not a bad score for so early in the season. — C. G. M. DE WORMS, Three Oaks, Shore's Road, Woking, Surrey.

EARLY APPEARANCE OF HYLOICUS PINASTRI L. AND OTHER MOTHS AT WOKING. — The remarkable heat-wave that broke in early May brought out moths in quantity, especially on the night of May 9th, 1976 when the temperature did not fall below 60°F. all night here. Among a big concourse at my m.v. trap was a Pine Hawk which I had only once before seen at such an early date, in the 1950's. *Hippocrita jacobaeae* L. was another unexpected visitor with a good assortment of the Prominents, notably *Notodonta trepida* Esp. which seems in great plenty this year. — C. G. M. DE WORMS, Three Oaks, Shore's Road, Woking, Surrey.

MOTHS AT BLACKBERRY FRUIT DURING SEPTEMBER 1975. — I found the following moths at a small patch of over-ripe blackberries in Darenth Wood on 21st September, 1975: *Cirrhia icteritia* Hufn., two, *Phlogophora meticulosa* L., two, a fresh female *Aporophyla luteola* Schiff. and a single *Dysstroma truncata* Hufn. — J. PLATTS, 11 Maydowns Road, Chestfield, Kent.